

P885
3.Y58
v. 2/1

The Youth Advocate

S. C. STATE LIBRARY

APR 22 1976

STATE DOCUMENTS



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES

VOL. II, NO. 1

1976

Agency Begins Status Offender Grant

College of Journalism
Youth Services,
"Scratch Backs"

The S. C. Department of Youth Services and the College of Journalism of the University of South Carolina "scratched each other's back" in a unique way recently.

At no cost to the taxpayers, the University provided the agency with vital information needed to conduct its community education programs. The Department of Youth Services, in return, gave some 20 journalism students valuable practical experience.

The project was worked out cooperatively by Dr. Joseph Nolan, Professor of Journalism at the university and Edward B. Borden, Coordinator of Public Education and Information for the state agency.

Four "public relations" agencies — composed of students working for a Bachelor or Master of Arts degree in Journalism — competed for the job of providing a satisfactory public relations campaign for the agency.

Borden and three staff members from the Department of Youth Services served as judges of the campaigns. The winning "agency" was exempted from the final exam, conducted by Dr. Nolan.

"The project gave us the material we need to conduct our information program," said Borden.

"Our agency, because it works with juvenile offenders, presents several problems. It is too closely identified with the adult Department of Corrections. And not many people know about our community involvement through the Youth Bureau Division."

Nolan, former director of pub-
(Continued on Page 5)

We'll Miss You, Frank

'Editor's Note: The following memorial was presented by the Rev. Howard Ellzey, ICU Chaplain, at John G. Richards campus on the impact of Recreation Specialist Frank Barron, who died Nov. 1 in an automobile accident.'

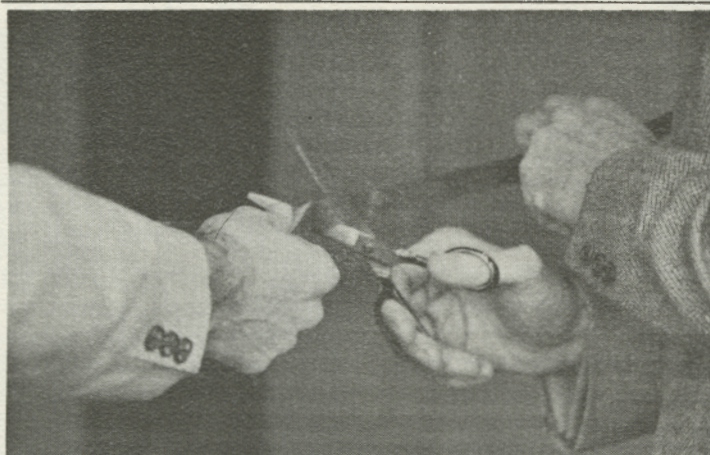
We come together to honor and commemorate the death and the new life of Frank Barron. You say, "Why in a gym and not in a chapel?" My answer is, "The gym was Frank Barron's chapel."

He was a man's man. All two hundred pounds of him. He doesn't want to see any of our tears this afternoon. His profession at John G. Richards was to make people happy and he did his best to see that each of you students had a good time.

Frank was a football, basketball and track star in high school and won a scholarship in football at Allen University. He also played semi-pro football in the Columbia All-Star Football League.

He came into our life in July, 1974 as a part time counselor in recreation. He became full time thirteen months later when he received a degree in Physical Education. He was married to Doris McKnight Barron and they had a two-year-old daughter.

I don't know the answer why he died and I'm sure you can't answer either. Only God, the infinite and loving Father, really knows. We must have faith that God knows best.



Ribbon Cutting

Where? See Page 3 for details.

The S. C. Department of Youth Services has begun implementation of a \$1.5 million grant that will remove status offenders from the institutional division of the agency in two years.

The Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) grant was awarded to the agency in November. State Director Grady A. Decell, board chairman E. Perry Palmer, board member Mrs. Barbara T. Sylvester, Planning and Grants Coordinator Bernard Sandick and George B. Grogan, Deputy Director for the Youth Bureau Division attended the signing of the grant in Washington.

The first phase of the deinstitutionalization is to begin March 1, Grogan said in a Youth Bureau Regional Supervisors' meeting in early February.

On that date no more status offenders will be accepted from Charleston, Greenville, Spartanburg, Rock Hill, Richland, Anderson or Laurens counties — sites of present Youth Bureau offices. In addition, status offenders from Union, Cherokee, Lancaster and Chester counties will be diverted to the Youth Bureau division.

"We've come a long way in a couple of years," said Grogan. "We're laying the foundation of a program that will be working ten to fifteen years from now. All of us can be proud we're the forebearers of a new system."

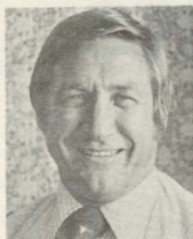
Grogan characterized the program as "one of the greatest things that's ever happened. It's a pure Youth Bureau concept.

"Our name is on the line," he concluded. "We've been saying all this time we can work with status offenders. It's our baby. We're not losers. We never have been, and we won't be now."

(Continued on Page 5)

Director's Dialogue...

by
Grady A. Decell



There's a national effort to provide children who run away from home a system of shelters which would keep them from having to be jailed.

This effort resulted in the passage of the Runaway Youth Act, which placed the responsibility for providing the funding for these shelters with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW).

A \$100,000 grant was extended to our agency to open the runaway shelter in Charleston, the first for South Carolina.

Children between 10 and 17 may be referred to this shelter and every effort will be made to help them solve the problems which caused them to run away.

Children may call the National Hotline and their call, in turn, may be referred to their parents or guardians if it is the child's desire. Children will be encouraged to be self-developing and every assistance will be given them, including counseling, referral, and placement if necessary.

Charleston County was chosen as the area where the first shelter was opened, as research showed that this area is where the greatest need is.

Other shelters are being planned for South Carolina with the hope in mind that runaways will not be placed in jail but given care, treatment and referral. This will help them help themselves.

We have been able to employ an excellent staff under the leadership of Mr. Paul Kane, shelter director, and Mr. David Jordan, supervisor of the Charleston Youth Bureau. We are most proud of this effort in behalf of the children to be served, most of whom will be Charlestonians and the majority of whom will be girls.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 1976-77 BUDGET REQUEST

I. ADMINISTRATION	\$ 60,435	\$ 43,959	\$ 104,394
II. TREATMENT SERVICES	501,370	71,890	573,260
III. SUPPORTIVE SERVICES	57,136	492,759	549,895
IV. YOUTH BUREAU	452,551	141,989	594,540
V. SALARY INCREMENTS	111,418		111,418
TOTAL REQUESTED INCREASE	\$1,182,910	\$750,597	\$1,933,507

The Youth Advocate is published monthly by the S. C. Department of Youth Services, Box 21487, Columbia, S.C. 29221. It is entered as third class mail at the Columbia Post Office. All inquiries to the newsletter, including address changes, should be addressed to the editor.

This newsletter is printed by Youth Services students on the John G. Richards campus.

E. Perry Palmer Chairman
Grady A. Decell Director
Edward B. Borden Editor



NEWS BRIEFS



CHILD CARE WORKSHOP

The Rock Hill Youth Bureau recently completed its first Child Care Training Workshop.

The program was designed to prepare Youth Bureau clients for short-term child supervision. The workshop consisted of ten hours of classroom study. Speakers from a variety of professional fields—a nurse, the fire marshall for Rock Hill and a representative from the Catawba District Public Health Department—participated in the program.

Training covered emergency as well as routine situations. The program also dealt with the responsibility in providing a child care service in either a private home, a child care facility or a public facility.

The 26 graduates received certificates upon completion of their training.

GIRL IN CRITICAL CONDITION

A 14-year-old girl, struck Aug. 27 by lightning on the Reception and Evaluation Center campus, remains in critical condition.

Chief Psychiatrist Dr. Gene Starr said the girl is unconscious and her condition has not changed since she and a 16-year-old companion were struck as they returned from the canteen.

The girl has been transferred to a private nursing home near Kingstree to be near her family.

Her companion was hospitalized overnight and released.

Dr. Starr said the girl "is unable to live without life support equipment. She's never regained consciousness. Her prognosis is guarded. We continue to hope, but we just don't know."

DIRECTOR ATTENDS PRESIDENTIAL FORUM

State Director Grady A. Decell attended an all-day "Presidential Public Forum on Domestic Policy" in Tampa, Fla. Oct. 29.

Decell was invited by Vice President Nelson Rockefeller. Purpose of the program was to help develop "program alternatives in areas of economic growth, resource development, social policy and community building."

Rockefeller said, "The administration of federal programs are of particular interest in view of the President's desire to make the Federal Government more responsive and less burdensome."

WE CARE ESTABLISHES CONTESTS

"We Care," the internal publication of the agency, has established an essay and a poetry contest for students.

"We're hoping to recognize those students who have literary talent," said Edward B. Borden, Coordinator of Public Education/Information and editor of the newsletter.

Staff members were asked to encourage students to submit material. The best of that selected will be published and the winners will be recognized with prizes, said Borden.

AGENCY WINS AWARD

The Department of Youth Services received the United Fund's "Fair Share Award" for the second straight year.

Presentation of the bronze plaque was made at the Richland-Lexington United Fund annual banquet in late January.

State Director Grady A. Decell, in accepting the plaque from staff members, attributed the agency's success to the concern of its employees. "We're in the business of helping children and we know what it takes. Thank God for the United Fund. Their assistance with many of our children has been invaluable."



Charleston Groundbreaking

State Director Grady A. Decell speaks to a gathering of some 75 people at the December dedication ceremony of the Charleston Youth Bureau office building. The \$90,000 structure, right, houses some 15 staff members, a board room and waiting space for clients. In the background behind the director are board members Mrs. Barbara T. Sylvester, Florence; the Rev. Horace B. Youngblood and chairman E. Perry Palmer, Columbia; and Mrs. Lucy T. Davis, Florence. The hands on Page 1 belong to Regional Supervisor David Jordan and board chairman E. Perry Palmer.

The Youth Advocate Scene



Art Program (Above)

Charleston Regional Office youth counselors Miss Doreen Henry and Ms. Tootsie Harter set up an art program at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Six-week art programs ran for 6-to-12-year-old students. String art, tissue paper art and sponge painting were taught during the course.



Youth Services' Budget Hearing

Director Grady A. Decell, center, (left picture) discusses point with Rep. Tom G. Magum at the Budget and Control Board hearing as Youth Services' board chairman E. Perry Palmer looks on. Listening intently in the picture on the right are Comptroller Henry Mills, State Treasurer Grady Patterson and Gov. James B. Edwards.



Super Santa (Right)

Hampton Cottage Unit Supervisor Susan Rainey pins a "Youth Services" nametag on Santa Claus, who came to visit children at the agency at Christmas time. Some say Frankie-San, Alston Wilkes Society volunteer and chief librarian at the Central Correctional Institution, was disguised as the jolly old elf, but Santa denied it.





Hug Bug

Senior citizens, college students, parents and children got together at the University of South Carolina campus recently to film a segment for the agency's public service TV ads. The advertisements are built around the "hugbug" theme.

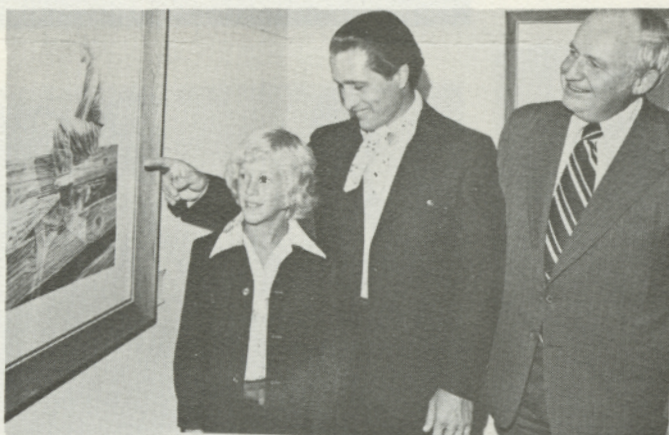


Gift From Agency

Tom Quattlebaum, right, president of the Dentsville Optimist Club, receives a certificate of appreciation from chairman E. Perry Palmer for the club's gift of \$200 to the agency. The presentation was made on the John G. Richards campus.

The Coach Listens

University of South Carolina head basketball coach Frank McGuire visited John G. Richards School and discussed the value of athletics to students. Here he listens intently to a student during an informal session after his talk.



Art Show

Paul Anderson, center, discusses a water color pastel with the subject, Judson Decell, son of the state director. Anderson's art exhibit was displayed in the Columbia Museum of Art. Looking on is former Gov. John C. West.



Guest Speaker

Dr. Jeanne McCarthy, left, Director of Leadership Training Institute and Learning Disabilities of the University of Arizona at Tucson, chats with Mrs. Nancy Heckel, Supervisor for Psychological Services. Dr. McCarthy spoke on learning problems of the handicapped.

Agency Seeks Increase; Cuts Current Budget

Faced with mounting financial needs and an austere economy, the S. C. Department of Youth Services has asked for a \$1.9 million 1976-77 budget increase, and cut its current budget some \$530,000.

The 29 per cent increase, State Director Grady A. Decell told the Budget and Control Board, is necessary for the agency to carry out its legal and philosophical mission of preserving and enhancing the values of problem children.

The agency, he said, "has the awesome responsibility of caring, rearing, educating and helping the child to develop a system of socially acceptable values which will enable him to grow into a useful productive adult."

Decell said he sees the agency's ability to carry out the legislative mandate slipping unless more funds are coming. "The long range loss in terms of prison and welfare support will be far more burdensome to the state than a modest increase in the support to this agency," Decell said.

Jack Shivers, Deputy Director for Fiscal Affairs, made a ten-

point recommendation to ensure the agency would stay within its means on the current eight percent budget cut.

Some of the recommendations included only necessary travel approved by the Director; no new telephone lines and long distance telephone calls curtailed; only necessary and emergency repairs approved; purchase and rental of equipment is restricted; only necessary supplies ordered, and those placed with General Services.

The restrictions have paid off. Decell said the agency has met financial quota imposed by the Budget and Control Board.

"I wish to thank all of our employees, whose response to this severe problem was one of determination and sacrifice. They are the ones who made our campaign successful."

In the upcoming budget, the Director has asked for new equipment "to replace old and worn out capital goods. Inadequate office and physical facilities for the staff have hampered the ability to provide meaningful social services to youth in trouble."

The agency is asking for 37 Youth Counselor II employees because meaningful child-centered services requires a high ratio of staff to clients.

"Failure to provide adequate staff will be translated initially to inability of the troubled child to grow into a productive citizen but in the final analysis it will increase . . . the burden of the state to furnish increased institutional and welfare care at the expense of tax-producing citizens," the Director concluded.

DYS, USC (continued)

lic relations for the Chase Manhattan Bank in New York, had visited the agency last spring and discussed with Borden some of the agency's problems.

The four student "agency" groups agreed that the Department of Youth Services needed to establish its own identity, promoting its own goals and ideals. "The problem was how to do it," Nolan said.

"The students felt that Youth Services had several good things going for it including an excellent newsletter, *The Youth Advocate*, and a bumper sticker, 'Have You Hugged Your Kid Today?' that had gone international."

The four student groups proposed a continued emphasis on bumper stickers and also stressed media and personal

contacts in communities where Youth Bureau regional offices are located.

"Our message is special," said Borden. "Our children are still immature people. State law recognizes the difference and has set aside a separate judiciary, the Family Court system; and separate facilities, Youth Services, to work with them."

The "PR" directors were Mrs. Brenda Hellams, Fred L. Williams, William Pieper and Earl Eubanks, all of Columbia. The agency headed by Mrs. Hellams was selected as the winner.

"Our students received valuable training they wouldn't have gained otherwise," said Nolan. "They were required to go out to the agency, investigate its community relations program, determine its image and make recommendations to improve it."



Confer On Public Relations

Mrs. Brenda Hellams, center, discusses her winning advertising campaign with Dr. Joseph Nolan, left, University of South Carolina College of Journalism, and Edward B. Borden, Coordinator of Public Education/Education at the Department of Youth Services.



Status Offenders (continued)

"Generally, we're placing emphasis on court referrals," said Grogan. "We've done the research and we know how many children we can expect from each county."

"Our work will be based on commitments and court contacts. We're going to take a hard look at residential care. The plan calls for group homes. But we're not going to place a child in a group home unless he ab-

solutely needs to be there."

The grant also calls for the establishment of a statewide volunteer program. Negotiations are underway with the Alston Wilkes Society, a non-profit prisoner-aid organization that has worked mainly with adult prisoners.

Grogan said there would be a reorganization of the Youth Bureau Division to handle the new program. Details, he said, would be announced soon.

Planning Session

Leonard Lee, Greenville Youth Bureau (second from left), makes a point during a planning session on implementation of the agency's deinstitutionalization grant. Others are (beginning left background), Lee Eggleston, Columbia Youth Bureau; Walter Waddell, Spartanburg Youth Bureau; Frank Mosley, John Kinchen and Mary Curlee, Youth Bureau Central Office and David Jordan, Charleston Youth Bureau.

Profile: Removal of Status Offenders From the Agency's Institutions



George B. Grogan
Deputy Director of
Youth Bureau Services

Editor's Note: Because of the vast importance of the Agency's \$1.5 million grant, *Profile* interviewed George Grogan, Deputy Director of Youth Bureau Services, on what this grant will mean to South Carolina, and to the treatment of Juvenile offenders in the criminal justice system. As Grogan indicates, this grant will have national importance:

PROFILE: What exactly is the purpose of this grant?

GROGAN: It is a two-year federal impact grant awarded to The State of South Carolina, Department of Youth Services, to remove all status offenders from juvenile correctional facilities. Some 3,600 children will receive services through this grant. Total deinstitutionalization will be accomplished by blocking entry and by attrition of status offenders from institutions. The removal of status offenders from detention facilities and institutions to be placed in community-based programs will occur as capabilities of these alternative services are developed and expanded throughout the state under this grant.

PROFILE: What is a "status offender?"

GROGAN: The definition of a status offender in South Carolina is that of a juvenile who is sanctioned for an offense such as truancy, incorrigible, unruly or running away from home which, if committed by an adult, would not be a criminal violation.

PROFILE: What is the national importance of this grant to the agency?

GROGAN: The Department of Youth Services is the only known youth serving agency for juvenile delinquents that has a total state integration system in the country. What is done with status offenders in South Carolina over the next two years could be a model for the country.

PROFILE: Why are we so concerned with status offenders? Why not continue placing all children together, no matter what offense they have committed?

GROGAN: By placing juveniles who are classified as status offenders in the same institutions with children who have committed criminal acts, you are in essence labeling them as criminals. This grant will allow the institutions to focus its entire attention on the true delinquent and the status offender will be handled in social community programs.

PROFILE: What will be the ultimate effect upon the agency as far as children are concerned?

GROGAN: At the end of the two-year grant period, there will be no status offenders in the institutions. We will continue to provide

services to children who have been referred from other sources outside the criminal justice system, in schools, mental health, etc.

PROFILE: What types of services will be provided to children under this grant?

GROGAN: I would like to emphasize that it would be misleading to think that this agency could provide the entire spectrum of services to children referred to it. Our intent is not to duplicate services in the community but to utilize existing services to the fullest capacity. Services will be available for individual and group counseling for the child and his parents, residential care when needed, a statewide volunteer program, a 24 hour tracking system for monitoring purposes, tutorial programs, intake activities, diagnosis, referral, follow up and a 24 hour on call service. The addition of field offices will provide each county in the state with coverage by a field service unit.

PROFILE: When does this program go into effect?

GROGAN: The deinstitutionalization of status offenders from our correctional facilities will begin March 1, 1976, from our already established regional and satellite offices. New field offices such as Lancaster, Chester, Cherokee and Union will be receiving children under the deinstitutionalization program in April. Other offices will be opened and available for services based on a timeframe over the next two years.

Around the Agency...

Lt. Pamela Sylvester, daughter of Dr. Joseph G. and (board member) Mrs. Barbara T. Sylvester, was featured in an article in the State newspaper recently. Lt. Sylvester is the first female officer to graduate from Airborne School... Dr. Gene Hendrix, Intensive Care Unit Coordinator, recently received his Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of South Carolina... Donald Cromer, executive vice president of the West Columbia-Cayce Jaycees, presented a donation to Willow Lane School in December. The Jaycees sponsor the Willow Lane Basketball team. Other members present at the half-time ceremony were treasurer Wayne Collins, Richard McConnell and board members Don Morris, Client Turner and Jim Ard... The Rev. Al Brodie, R&E, spoke to Columbia Bible College, Northside Baptist Church in Greenwood and a graduate psychology class at USC... Public Information/Education Coordinator Edward B. Borden spoke to the Governor's Interagency Council at the Rutledge Building on making public relations work... Chapel of the Cross Episcopal Church adopted a Willow Lane youth for Christmas, buying him presents and recognizing him in a service... Rock Hill Youth Bureau Regional Supervisor Elizabeth B. Chorak spoke to the N.C. Juvenile Corrections Association in Raleigh... Other recent speaking engagements included The Rev. Howard D. Ellzey, ICU, Green Street United Methodist Church; Reception and Evaluation Center Supervisor of Social Services Judy C. McMasler to the Partners Program in Orangeburg; The Rev. Yu Fong Chong, John G. Richards School, to Goodwill Baptist Church; and John G. Richards Assistant Cottage Life Director J. A. Morales to the Union Baptist Church... Touring the agency farm were children from Watkins Elementary School, Lyon Street Elementary School, Brockman Elementary School, Babcock Center, Seven Oaks Elementary School and Hallmark West Kindergarten, among others...